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23122 7590 05/03/2005

RATNERPRESTIA
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 VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482-0980

08/09/2005 HBELETE2 00000078 10615196

01 FC:1501 1400.00 OP
 02 FC:1504 300.00 OP
 03 FC:8001 30.00 OP

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Linda J. Remer (Depositor's name)
 (Signature)
 August 3, 2005 (Date)

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/615,196 | 07/07/2003 | Brian E. Dalton | 4384 | 8029 |

TITLE OF INVENTION: SPINAL STABILIZATION IMPLANT AND METHOD OF APPLICATION

| APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE | PUBLICATION FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------------|------------|
| nonprovisional | YES | \$700 1400 | \$300 | \$1000 1700 30 1730 | 08/03/2005 |

| EXAMINER | ART UNIT | CLASS-SUBCLASS |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|
| DAVIS, DANIEL J | 3731 | 606-061000 |

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 RatnerPrestia

2

3

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Aesculap Inc.

Center Valley, Pennsylvania

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☒ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

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☒ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
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5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☒ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

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Authorized Signature

Ellen E. Fielitz

Date August 3, 2005

Typed or printed name

Ellen E. Fielitz

Registration No. 54,746

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission 4

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Application Number | 10/615,196 |
| Filing Date | August 7, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Brian E. Dalton |
| Art Unit | 3731 |
| Examiner Name | Daniel J. Davis |
| Attorney Docket No. | BBM-115US |

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
- ☒ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment/Reply
 - ☐ After Final
 - ☐ Affidavits/Declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application
 - ☐ Response to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a
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- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation,
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- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
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 - ☐ Landscape Table on CD

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 - ☐ Appeal Communication to Board
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 - ☐ Appeal Communication to TC
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2038; Postcard

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|--------|
| Firm Name | RatnerPrestia | | |
| Signature | | | |
| Printed Name | Ellen E. Fielitz | | |
| Date | August 3, 2005 | Registration No. | 54,746 |

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|------|----------------|
| Signature | | | |
| Typed or Printed Name | Linda J. Remer | Date | August 3, 2005 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Office, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

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